Vehicle Industry News

Special Interest License Plate Exchange

Issue Date: March 4, 2014

New Policy

The term "conversion" is replaced by the term "exchange" when a customer orders a different special interest license plate (SILP) type using the personalized configuration from their existing Environmental License Plate (ELP) or SILP. EXAMPLE: A personalized Lake Tahoe License Plate exchanged for a Yosemite License Plate.

NOTE: Existing personalized license plate configurations may be exchanged for another SILP **only** if the configuration is within the number of characters allowed on the requested plate type.

Procedures

Continue to follow procedures in the Vehicle Industry Registration Procedures Manual, Chapter 21 for processing SILP applications.

Background

A recent audit of the Department of Motor Vehicle's special license plate program found the term "conversion" misleading and recommended it be changed. The Vehicle Industry Registration Procedures Manual and all forms will be updated to reflect the revision.

Distribution

Notification that this memo is available online, at www.dmv.ca.gov under Publications was made via California DMV's Automated E-mail Alert System in March 2014.

Reference

Vehicle Industry Registration Procedures Manual, Chapter 21

Contact

Call the DMV Customer Communications Section, at (916) 657-6560 for further clarification of this memo. Upon request, this document can be produced in Braille or large print.

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